

## A NEW SPECIES OF *MYNES* BOISDUVAL (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) FROM THE MOLUCCAS, INDONESIA

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### Abstract

*Mynes obiana* sp. n. is described from the Moluccan island of Obi, eastern Indonesia.

### Introduction

The genus *Mynes* Boisduval, [1832], contains approximately ten described species, ranging in distribution from the island of Flores and through Maluku (Moluccas) in Indonesia, to eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands (D'Abbrera 1978, Parsons 1998, Tsukada 1985). Four of these species are known to occur in Maluku (Fig. 1). *M. plateni* Staudinger, 1887, is found in Maluku Utara (northern Moluccas), including the islands of Bacan, Halmahera and Morotai, *M. talboti* Jurriaanse & Volbreda, 1922, occurs on Buru and *M. doubledaii* Wallace, 1869, flies on Seram. *M. geoffroyi* (Guérin-Ménéville, 1830), has a wider distribution, from southeast Maluku (Kei and Aru) and Gebe Island, eastwards to New Guinea and eastern Australia.

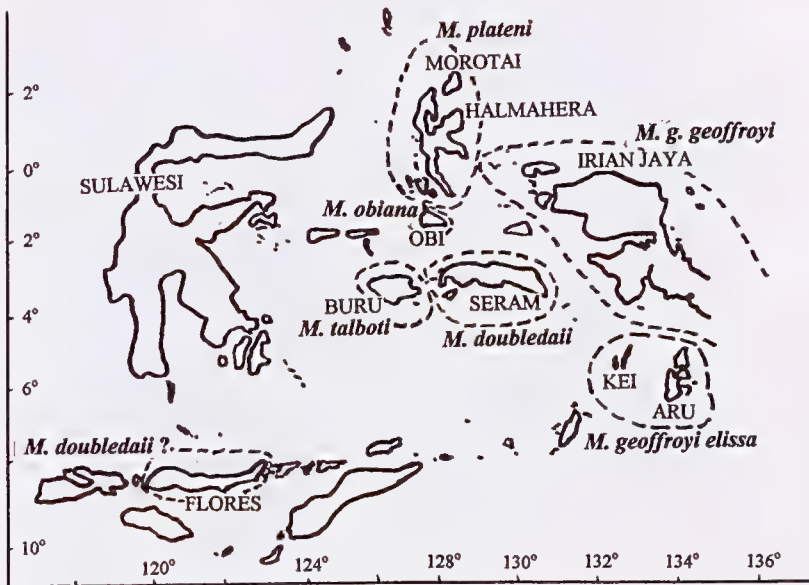


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Mynes* spp. in the Moluccan islands.

Two males, collected by the first author on the south coast of Obi in 1998, differ from any previously described *Mynes* taxon. The relatively large and isolated island of Obi lies between North and Central Maluku (Fig. 1) and, so far as the authors are aware, no *Mynes* species has been reported previously from this island.

***Mynes obiana* sp. n.**

(Figs 2-4)

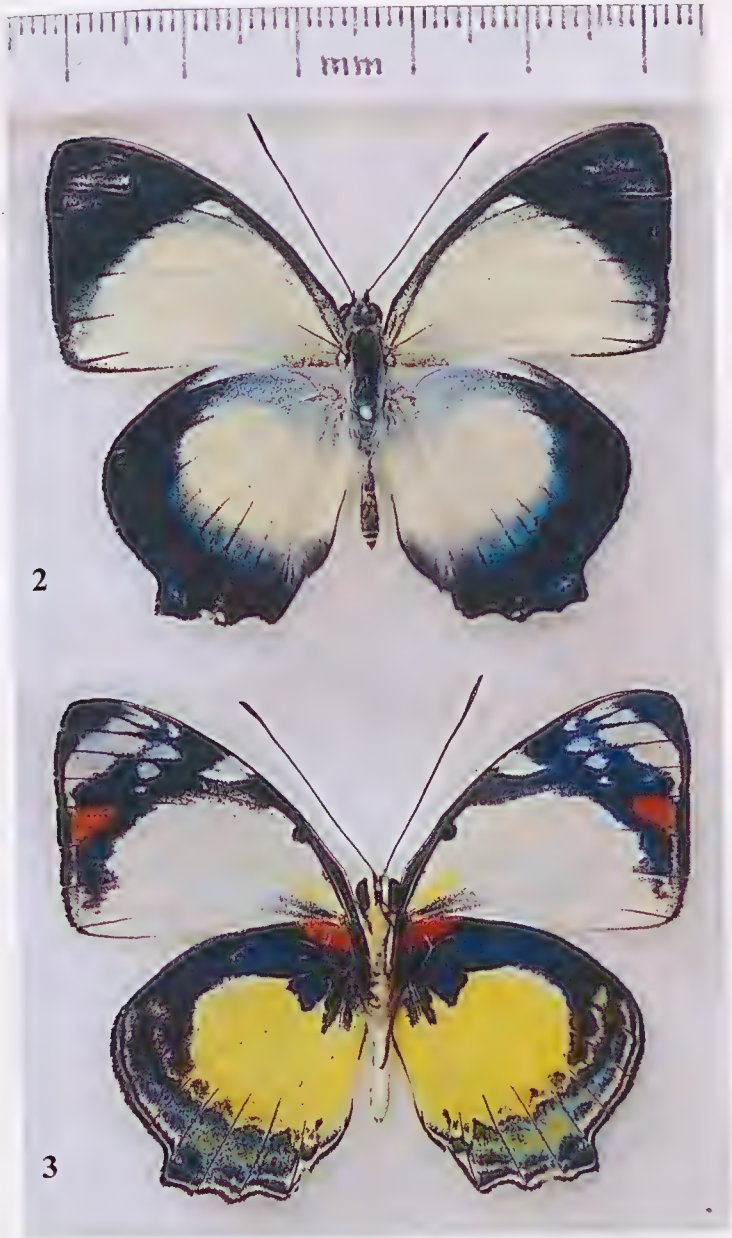
*Types.* Holotype ♂, INDONESIA: Maluku, Obi Island, south coast, Bobo village, 19.xi.1998, A. Rawlins (gen. prep. BMNH (V) 5981 [JT 718]), in The Natural History Museum, London [BMNH]. Paratype ♂, same data as holotype, in A. Rawlins Collection.

*Description.* Male (Figs 2-3). Forewing length 32 mm; upperside (Fig. 2) similar to *M. geoffroyi*; forewing basal two-thirds creamy-white, including tornus; apical third black, with obscure subapical white markings (in all subspecies of *M. geoffroyi* seen, a broad marginal border extends to tornus); like other *Mynes* species, creamy markings with peripheral, obscure bluish basal, ternal and costal markings; hindwing basal and discal areas creamy-white, suffused powder-blue basally; underside (Fig. 3) superficially similar to *M. g. elissa* Fruhstorfer, 1906; forewing with typical *Mynes* black, white and red markings; subapical irregular, broken line white (yellow in *M. g. elissa* [see discussion] and in nominotypical *M. g. geoffroyi* material seen from Irian Jaya); large white basal patch extending to tornus (broad marginal border extends to tornus in *M. geoffroyi* subspecies); hindwing with typical *Mynes* arrangement of black, red, green and yellow markings; extensive yellow patch (variable in extent in all *Mynes* taxa in which it occurs) similar in all respects in holotype and paratype, restricted in ternal area (extending almost to tornus in subspecies of *M. geoffroyi*). Female not known.

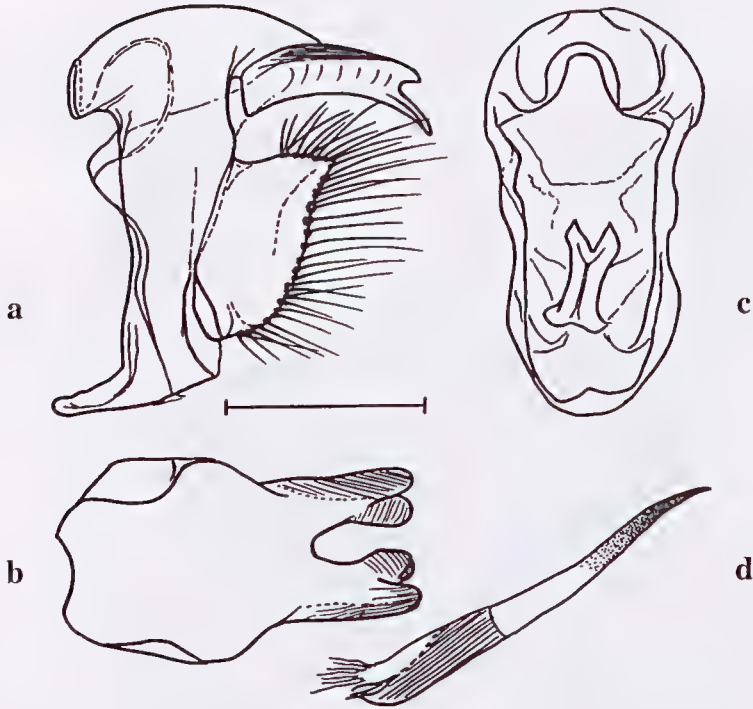
Male genitalia (Fig. 4). Similar to *M. geoffroyi*; tegumen with deep lateral indentation (lacking in specimens of *M. geoffroyi* examined); saccus well developed; valva large, angular (smaller, posterior edge more rounded in *M. geoffroyi*).

**Discussion**

*Mynes obiana* is closest in appearance to *M. geoffroyi elissa* Fruhstorfer, described from a solitary female originating from Wanumba Island in the Aru group. In The Natural History Museum, London [BMNH], there are a further three females from Aru, plus two females and a male from the Kei Islands. The first author recently obtained two males and one female from Kobroor Island in the Aru group. The female specimen matches Aru females in the BMNH and morphological differences, including the male genitalia, between *M. geoffroyi* subspecies and the Obi specimens described above suggest a new species.



Figs 2-3. *Mynes obiana* sp. n.; holotype male. (2) upperside; (3) underside.



**Fig. 4.** *Mynes obiana*, male genitalia. (a) left lateral view (aedeagus removed), showing exterior face of left valve; (b) anterior view, showing juxta (aedeagus removed); (c) dorsal view, showing tegumen and uncus; (d) excised aedeagus, left lateral view. Scale bar (all to same scale) = 1 mm.

### Acknowledgements

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### References

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